



<http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org>

*June 2023 Newsletter*

## **Bishop Smith encouraged the saints to Live Holy**

FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA. – “When God brings you out of sin, stay out,” said Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop, and Pastor of Promise Church, while preaching on Friday night, June 2, 2023. Those who could not make it to the church were able to participate via Zoom.

Bishop Smith said that God is holy, pure, kind, and gentle and He does not change His mind about His gifts and callings; He keeps His promises. “For the gifts and the callings of God are irrevocable. For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy” (Romans 11:29-31, NKJV).

“Through Israel’s disobedience, God had grace and mercy on the gentiles. It took Israel 40 years to trust that the God would take care of them because they never got God in their hearts,” said Bishop Smith. “The devil likes to send the wrong message to the saints (Numbers 13:27-29) to cause them to fear and keep them dissatisfied with God’s blessings. Canaan represented Israel’s earthly blessing but some of them did not trust God enough to make it there,” added Bishop Smith.

Saints should be like Apostle Paul and know what things move them so that they can guard and work out their salvation, said Bishop Smith. “But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24 NKJV).

Bishop Smith said that God is not looking for people who act holy but people who are holy. “Do not let anyone challenge your stand in God. If you do not allow the Holy Spirit to lead you, you will never stand in the presence of the Lord. You must put your life in Christ and trust Him. Sometimes you need to fast and pray (Acts 27:23-25) until God shows up and tells you that you will be all right,” concluded Bishop Smith.



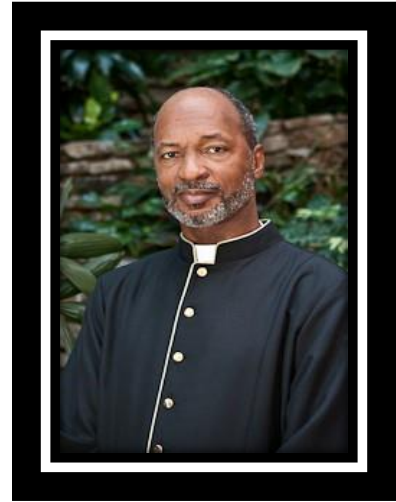
**In the Photo:** Bishop Charles D. Smith preaching at Promise Church in Fort Walton Beach, FL.

## **The Bishop's Corner**

### ***We must point people to Jesus***

Praise the Lord Saints,

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life--the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us--that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:1-5, NKJV).



Everything we preach is supposed to point people to Christ. We must make sure that our preaching is not to build church organizations. Unless churches bring people to Christ, the people cannot be saved and it is a waste of time for people to come to your church. Ninety percent of our preaching, teaching, and talking in the church should be about Christ Jesus. Apostle Paul tells us, who are preachers, in Romans 12:13-15, that we have been sent to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ so that people can be saved. “For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe on Him in whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!’”

John the Baptist had no problem pointing people to Jesus because that was why he was sent to preach. “There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through Him might believe. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, ‘This is He of whom I said, He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:6-7, 15, 29, NKJV)

The Holy Spirit will confirm the word of God preached about Jesus if it is preached with the right motive because the Spirit testifies and witnesses of Jesus. Sometimes we can preach the right word but have the wrong motive. “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me” (John 15:26, NKJV). “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you” (John 16:14, NKJV).

Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world and the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13-16). Therefore, we must be as Apostle Paul and take every opportunity to remind people of Jesus Christ, who is the foundation of the gospel so they can believe and be saved (2 Timothy 2:8-10, Hebrews 3:1-6).

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith  
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction

***For more of Bishop Smith's teachings, go to the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Website at <http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org> and click on “Encouragement” then “Teachings.”***

## More June stories

### Category: Events

*During the month of June, one church had a pastoral anniversary, two churches had Father's Day celebrations and another church had a youth church lock in.*



- **From Prince of Peace:** The saints of Prince of Peace (POP) celebrated Elder Paulette Harrison's 20th Pastoral Anniversary on June 10-11, 2023. The theme for the weekend was "Ye shall receive a Crown of Glory" (1 Peter 5:4). Saints from around the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction (GCJ) came to participate in the celebration. Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop, told the saints during the Saturday morning service to seek for eternal life with God and not to just live in this life. "Your life now is like a grain of sand and the sand on the beach is like your eternity," said Bishop Smith. "You have many options on the earth but you only have two options in eternity; you either have God or you are without God. There is no group salvation; you are responsible for yourself," added Bishop Smith. As a result of his preaching, three people prayed for salvation. God was glorified and the saints rejoiced.

The appreciation banquet followed the Saturday morning service in the beautifully decorated banquet room. Saints presented Pastor Harrison with gifts and words of appreciation and encouragement.

The Sunday morning service concluded the pastoral appreciation weekend of events. Members from Perfecting Saints Church had service with Prince of Peace to show their appreciation for Pastor Harrison. They provided ushers, musicians, and singers to help in the celebration. Elder Ruth Latham preached and told the people to "Get your crown because Jesus is coming soon." She said that God wants everyone to have a crown of righteousness but is up to everyone to choose God. Elder Latham encouraged the POP saints to hold up Pastor Harrison's arm as Aaron and Hur did for Moses in Exodus 17:8-13 so that Israel could win the war against their enemy. The people said they were encouraged and blessed by the weekend events.



**In the Photo:** Bishop Charles D. Smith, Elder Paula Smith and Elder Paulette Harrison enjoying the pastoral anniversary banquet on Saturday, June 10, 2023 at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, FL.



**Prince of Peace Pastoral Anniversary Pictures Continued:**



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the pastoral anniversary celebration for Elder Paulette Harrison on Saturday, June 10, 2023 at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, FL.



**Prince of Peace Pastoral Anniversary Pictures Continued:**



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## Prince of Peace Pastoral Anniversary Pictures Continued:



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the pastoral anniversary celebration for Elder Paulette Harrison on Saturday, June 10 and Sunday, June 11, 2023 at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, FL.

## Prince of Peace Pastoral Anniversary Pictures Continued:



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the pastoral anniversary celebration for Elder Paulette Harrison on Sunday, June 11, 2023 at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, FL.

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Christ the Redeemer honored its fathers with a steak dinner and a great message. The fathers were reminded that even the small things impact everyone around them. They were encouraged to have as much faith in God the Father as their children have in them.

*Missionary Hannah James:* "We love our Christ the Redeemer fathers."





**In the Photo:** Christ the Redeemer's fathers celebrating their special day, Father's Day in Gulfport, MS.

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- **From Holy of Holies Tabernacle:** Holy of Holies Tabernacle celebrated its church fathers all weekend with an Ice cream fellowship, Father's Day service, and Sunday dinner.

*Minister Kim Mastin:* "They were truly honored."



**In the Photos:** Holy of Holies Tabernacle fathers enjoying their Father's Day weekend celebrations.

## HHT Father's Day Photos Continued:



**In the Photos:** Holy of Holies Tabernacle fathers enjoying their Father's Day weekend celebrations.



## HHT Father's Day Photos Continued:



**In the Photos:** Holy of Holies Tabernacle fathers enjoying their Father's Day weekend celebrations.

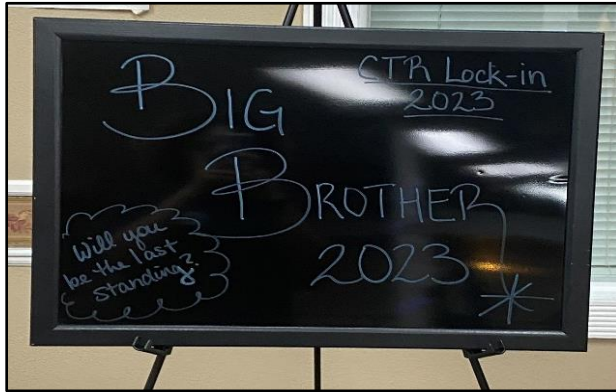
- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Christ the Redeemer's Youth and Young Adult Department held its third annual Summer Lock In. This time the youth played Big Brother: Lock-in Edition. The youth played games to gain power in the Big Brother. They strategized, made big moves, and voted each other out until one was crowned the winner of Big Brother: Lock-in Edition.

*Missionary Hannah James:* "The Youth had a great time."



**In the Photo:** Christ the Redeemer's youth enjoying the church Lock In.

## Christ the Redeemer Youth Lock in Photos Continued:



**In the Photo:** Christ the Redeemer's youth enjoying the church Lock in.

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## Category: Departmental Announcements:

- **From the GCJ Youth and Young Adult Department:**

Greetings, Saints,

I hope you have been blessed by this year's IYYAC, Brotherhood, and General Assembly as much as I have. I want to express my pride in our Youth and Young Adults for their remarkable contributions during the IYYAC and throughout the past week. It was truly inspiring to witness God's glory being magnified!

As we continue moving forward, embracing a fresh perspective, and striving to become "Timothies," I wanted to reiterate my message. I am dedicated to building up the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Youth and Young Adult Department, but this endeavor cannot be accomplished alone. I need your assistance to make this department exceptional. My vision for the Department is that each youth and young adult develops a personal relationship with God, enabling them to be deeply rooted, unwavering, and resilient in their faith amidst the challenges of this generation. Additionally, I aim to foster unity among us, recognizing that we are all co-laborers who depend on each other to grow and persevere in this race.



Our highly anticipated 2024 GCJ YYA Conference is merely six months away, and it is imperative that we get started promptly. I am eager to assemble our volunteers and would like to schedule our first planning meeting during the week of July 24th. The following list outlines the areas where I am seeking volunteers. If you are interested in any of these roles, please reach out to me via email at [shaneika.brinkley@clgi.org](mailto:shaneika.brinkley@clgi.org) or text at (228) 731-1517.

- Local Youth & Young Adult Directors/Reps for each church (Please see note below)
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Social Media
- Outreach
- Marketing/Creative (Flyers, Logos, Designs, etc.)
- Photography
- Music - Collaborating with Min. Brinkley on YYA Choir
- Assistant Youth and Young Director (Possibly assisting in the Southern/Tampa Region of the Jurisdiction) \*\*Subject to Bishop Smith's Approval

Note: Pastors/Elders, even if your church does not currently have a Youth and Young Adult Department or Coordinator, I still require a representative from each church with whom I can communicate regarding YYAD-related information.

Once volunteers have been selected for each area, I plan to organize an engaging and interactive training session to equip us for success in our respective roles. I am genuinely excited about what the Lord has in store for this department. Thank you for your faithfulness, and may the Lord continue to bless you abundantly.

God Bless,

Min. Shaneika Brinkley  
GCJ Youth and Young Adult Director

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- **From the GCJ Women's Department:** The following are summaries of Women of Faith and Power Bible Study Lessons from June. Beginning in the month of August, Women of Faith and Power will meet every first Wednesday at 7 p.m. CST. I encourage the women of the Gulf Coast to join us for these sessions. We have truly been enjoying the Lord and His Word thus far.

God Bless,

Min. Shaundra D. Smith  
GCJ Women's Auxiliary Director

### **June 15, 2023**

#### **"Adorning of the Inner (Wo)Man: God's Beauty Standards"**

Based on scriptural context from 1 Peter 2:11-15, 21-24, and 3:1-5. The central theme revolves around understanding and embodying God's beauty standards, which are focused on the inner qualities of a person rather than external appearance. The teaching emphasizes the concept of submission, particularly wives submitting to their husbands, as a posture of the heart rather than

blind obedience. Submission is not just for wives; all believers are called to submit to God and various authorities. It involves a posture of the heart, being supportive, respectful, and humble. Jesus is our ultimate example of submission.

The lesson also discusses the importance of chaste behavior, meaning living a pure and reverent life, which can influence others, including unsaved husbands, to turn to God. This change in behavior should stem from genuine personal transformation and seeking the Lord wholeheartedly. The beauty described in the lesson is not superficial but comes from having a gentle, quiet, and spiritually mature spirit, trusting, and hoping in God, and adapting to various situations with a flexible and approachable attitude.

The overall message encourages women, to find their true confidence and self-esteem in living a life that pleases God and relying on His word. By doing so, she can resist conforming to worldly standards, stop loving the world, and recognize her inherent worth as fearfully and wonderfully made by God. Trusting in God and His word provides everything she needs to fulfill God's beauty standards.

### **June 21, 2023**

#### **The Power of God's Word in Our Lives**

The lesson highlights the significance of God's word as the foundation of our spiritual formation. It emphasizes that the Bible reflects who God is and helps us understand our relationship with Him. The main message, known as the metanarrative, encompasses Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Consummation.

Two types of study are discussed: Devotional Study and Study Time. Devotional Study focuses on meditating and reflecting on God's goodness, glory, and grandeur, fostering a deeper relationship with Him. Study Time involves in-depth examination of Scripture using deductive and inductive approaches.

Deductive Study involves searching for specific topics or themes in the Bible to find evidence to support or disprove beliefs. While it can be reassuring and helpful, it should be approached with caution to avoid making the Bible say what one wants it to say.

Inductive Study involves examining large passages of Scripture, asking questions about what it says, what it meant when it was written, and how it applies to our lives today. This type of study requires careful observation, interpretation, and application without relying solely on commentaries.

This lesson encourages women to dedicate time to both types of study, deepening our understanding of God's word and strengthening our relationship with Him. Seek God's wisdom and revelation through His word, allowing it to transform your life and equip you to share its power with others.

### **June 29, 2023**

#### **The God Who Sees Me: The Story of Hagar**

In the midst of life's struggles, we often feel unseen and unheard. But Hagar's story from Genesis 16 and 21:12-21 reminds us that God is ever-present and compassionate. This lesson takes a deep dive to discover the key lessons God's daughters can learn from Hagar's encounter with God.

Hagar, an Egyptian slave, found herself in a difficult situation, feeling forsaken and oppressed. However, God saw her affliction and reached out to her. In this encounter, Hagar gave



God the name "El Roi" or "God who sees me." She established a personal relationship with Him, showing that God is willing to become whatever we need Him to be.

Through Hagar's story, we learn that God is not distant or indifferent to our struggles. He cares deeply about us and wants us to turn to Him in our darkest moments. Hagar's encounter with God also reminds us that trials can open us up to a fresh vision of who God is, drawing us closer to Him.

When we feel alone or abandoned, let Hagar's story be a source of comfort and hope. God's encountering presence is with us, ready to see, hear, and understand us in our every need. Embrace this truth, and let it propel you to trust and submit to God's plans for your life.

Reflect on your own wilderness experiences and how God showed up for you. As you do so, discover the character of God, full of compassion, mercy, and a desire to meet you right where you are.

If you would like the notes or audio recording of the June and any other Women of Faith and Power Bible Study lessons, please notify Min. Shaundra D. Smith: **Shaundanae@gmail.com**

### **Women of Faith and Power Bible Study Schedule**

August 2, 2023 (7 p.m. CST)

September 6, 2023 (7 p.m. CST)

October 4, 2023 (7 p.m. CST)

November 1, 2023 (7 p.m. CST)

December 6, 2023 (7 p.m. CST)

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- **From the GCJ Evangelistic Department:** Below are the members of the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Evangelistic Department. Please pray that the Lord will use them mightily to speak words that are Spirit and life and confirm His Word by miracles, wonders, and signs. If you need a revival at your church, please contact one of the evangelists listed below to check her availability.

1. Elder Ruth Latham – *Revival at Holy of Holies Tabernacle, Holiday, Fla. (Aug 11-13, 2023)*
  2. Minister Crystal Derico
  3. Minister Shaundra D. Smith
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### **Category: Prayer Request**

*The saints need healing and comfort.*

- **From the Editorial Staff:** The saints below need prayer. If you have a prayer request, please submit it to the monthly newsletter. We will run the testimonies of saints' answered prayers in the newsletter. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:16b NKJV).

Elder T'Angela Rogers (Healing)

Elder Paulette Harrison (Complete Healing)

Minister Sirita Loiseau (Healing)

Minister India Rogers (Healing)  
 Elder Deborah Sewell (Healing)  
 Minister Eartha Howard (Healing)  
 Elder Bonita Russell (Healing)  
 Sister Barbara Cooper (Healing)  
 Minister Kourtney Littlejohn (Healing)  
 Elder Jacqueline Terrell (Healing)  
 Elder Angela Jenkins (Healing)  
 Sister Nancy Torres (Healing)  
 Sister Eleanor Rogers' Mother (Ms. Rosa Welcome) (Healing)  
 Elder T'Angela Rogers' Mother and Stepfather (Healing)  
 Minister Kourtney Littlejohn's Sister (Veronika) (Healing)  
 Elder Treani Thompson (Healing)  
 Elder Lakesha Sewell (Healing)  
 Brother David Hawkins (Healing)

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### Category: Upcoming Events

- From the Administrative Department:

#### **The 2023 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar**

<b><u>Dates</u></b>	<b><u>Events</u></b>	<b><u>Locations</u></b>
<b>Jul 22-23</b>	<b>Elder Russell Pastoral Anniversary</b>	<b>Montgomery, AL</b>
Aug 4-6	First Jurisdictional Conference	Columbus, OH
Aug 24-27	South American Jurisdictional Conference	Paramaribo, Suriname
Sep 1-3	North Carolina/Central States Juris. Conference	TBD
Sept 15-17	CLGI Missions Conference	Columbus, OH
<b>Oct 7-8</b>	<b>Holy of Holies Tabernacle Anniversary</b>	<b>Holiday, FL</b>
Oct 6-8	PNW Jurisdictional Conference	Lithonia, GA
Oct 20-22	European Jurisdictional Conference	Rodenbach, Germany
<b>Nov 17-19</b>	<b>Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Conference</b>	<b>FWB, FL</b>
<b>Dec 2-3</b>	<b>Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniversary</b>	<b>Gulfport, MS</b>
<b>Dec 31</b>	<b>New Year's Eve Service</b>	<b>TBD</b>

**\*Please note that events and dates are subject to change.**



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*If you read this Gulf Coast Jurisdictional monthly newsletter and enjoy the articles, please help us keep it going by submitting articles and photos to [eldruthlath@gmail.com](mailto:eldruthlath@gmail.com) so we can enjoy reading and seeing the activities at your church.*

*Thanks to all of you who faithfully support the newsletter with your monthly inputs.*

*Very Respectively,  
The Editorial Staff*

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